

Message Text

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E.O. 11652 : NA
TAGS : OEXC, NI
SUBJ : FY-76 OPERATION CROSSROADS AFRICA
EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL PROGRAMS

REF : A. STATE 268745 B. VOGEL LETTER TO CAO
NOV. 12

1. FOR SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR SUBJECT PROGRAM AND IMPENDING VISIT
OCA REPRESENTATIVE ANNOUNCED WITH EXTREMELY SHORT
LEADTIME. BECAUSE OF INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS IT WOULD
BE MOST DIFFICULT FOR POST TO MAKE PROPER CONTACTS AND HAVE
NOMINEES READY FOR INTERVIEW PER REFTEL SCHEDULE. LAST YEAR'S
EXCELLENT PARTICIPANTS DUE PARTLY BECAUSE POST HAD GOOD PROSPECTS
ON "BACK-BURNER". THIS YEAR'S PROBLEM COMPOUNDED BY RECENT
PERSONNEL CHANGES AT BRANCH POSTS. ALSO, ACCORDING REF. B
SCHEDULE, VOGEL WOULD BE IN LAGOS OVER LONG MOSLEM HOLIDAY
(DECEMBER 1516).

2. IN LIGHT ABOVE, POST SUGGESTS BETTER TIMING FOR VISIT WOULD BE
MID-TO LATE-JANUARY. THIS WOULD ALLOW MORE TIME TO SOLICIT
AND RECEIVE NOMINATIONS. BASED ON NUMBER APPLICANTS FROM EACH
AREA. INTERNAL TRAVEL SCHEDULE WOULD BE PLANNED. (WE HAVE NO
WAY OF DETERMINING IF PROPOSED ITINERARY SUITABLE UNTIL WE HAVE
APPLICATIONS). WITH DECEMBER 15 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT APPLICATIONS
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LAGOS, WE COULD HAVE INTERVIEW SCHEDULE DETERMINED BY

DECEMBER 19.

3. IF DEPARTMENT AND OCA UNABLE FOLLOW ABOVE SUGGESTIONS, POST WILL TRY TO ACCOMMODATE MID-DECEMBER VISIT BY VOGEL, BUT CAN MAKE NO PROMISES. WE HOPE EXCELLENT RESULTS FROM EARLIER EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL PARTICIPANTS WOULD NOT BE NEGATED BY HASTY SELECTIONS.

4. POST ALSO WONDERING IF STUDENTS PRESENTLY IN U.S. ELIGIBLE FOR PROGRAM. A RECENT JFK GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP RETURNEE (ANDREW ABAH) SUGGESTED HIS U.S. EXPERIENCE WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE COMPLETE HAD HE BEEN EXPOSED OTHER AREAS RE HIS INTERESTS. WE PRESENTLY HAVE ONE FULL SCHOLARSHIP GRADUATE STUDENT (MISS IDONGESIT NTEM) AND TWO GRADUATE STUDENTS WITH TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS (FRANCIS BEKA AND FEMI OGUNSANWO) WHO MIGHT BE QUALIFIED. REQUEST DEPARTMENT AND OCA COMMENT/ADVICE WHETHER THEY CAN BE NOMINATED.

5. LIKEWISE POST CONSIDERING NOMINATING MR. DEJI FADINA, ADVANCED GRADUATE STUDENT IN MARSEILLE (AFRICAN STUDIES) ON LEAVE FROM NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT POSITION(STATE HOUSE, LAGOS).

6. ADVISE.
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